

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been amended by replacing “filmable monomers” with --monomers . . . which form a filmable shell--, as supported in the specification at page 3, line 29.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. With entry thereof, Claims 1-18 and 20-32 will remain pending in the application.

REMARKS

The rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by US 5,273,824 (Hoshino et al), US 2002/0072560 (Bardman et al) or US 5,229,209 (Gharapetian et al), is respectfully traversed, for reasons to be advanced in a to-be-filed Appeal Brief.

The rejection of Claims 1-10, 17, 18, 20, 22-24 and 26-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is respectfully traversed. It should be clear from the context in which the term “filmable monomers” was used that the intended meaning was -- monomers which form a filmable shell--. Thus, the rejection would now appear to be moot in view of the above-discussed amendment. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

It is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered in order to reduce the issues on appeal.

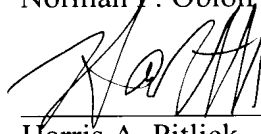
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